

AMUSEMENTS.

Crawford Grand
E. L. MARLING, Mgr.
DR. A. A. WILLETS
In His Great Lecture
"SUNSHINE"
OR
"HOW TO ENJOY LIFE"
Auspices Wichita Lyceum Association
FRIDAY EVENING, NOV. 13.
Seats on sale at Mosbacher's Wednesday 9 a. m. Single Ticket 50c.

Notice.
The regular annual meeting of the stockholders of the Midland Extension Mining company, will be held on Saturday, Nov. 21, 1896, at 7:30 p. m., at the company's office, 316 East Douglas avenue, Wichita, Kansas, for the purpose of electing officers and transacting of regular business.

Advice to Mothers.
Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup should always be used for children's teething. It soothes the child, cures the gums, allays all pain, cures wind colic, and is the best remedy for diarrhoea. Twenty-five cents a bottle. Used by millions of mothers.

Back Line.
Exchange tables at Orlando and Currywater. We make a specialty of carrying passengers between these points. Travelling men's patronage solicited. SHIVELY, VAN WYKE & SHIVELY.

CRIPPLE CREEK.
THE GREAT GOLD FELD OF THE NINETEENTH CENTURY
Is easily reached via the Great Missouri Pacific Railroad, either via Pueblo, Colorado Springs, or Pueblo, Colorado Express leaves Wichita daily at 8:30 p. m., arriving at Pueblo or Colorado Springs for breakfast. Cripple Creek is only a few hours ride from Pueblo or Colorado Springs.

CITY OF MEXICO AND RETURN.
VIA FRISCO LINE.
One fare for the round trip. Tickets on sale Nov. 7 and 14, limited until Dec. 31st, returning. For further information call on or address W. W. Tagg, City Ticket Agent, corner Main and Douglas.

CASTORIA

For Infants and Children.
The only safe and reliable medicine for infants and children. It is a powerful laxative and purgative, and is the only medicine that can be safely given to infants and children. It is the only medicine that can be safely given to infants and children. It is the only medicine that can be safely given to infants and children.

FRISCO LINE.
To St. Louis and all points east. The only line running through Pullman Buffet sleepers from St. Louis to St. Louis without change. City ticket office corner Main and Douglas.

GENERAL STEAMSHIP AGENCY.
MO. PA. TICKET OFFICE.
114 North Main Street,
Wichita, Kansas.

We can sell you through Railway and Steamship tickets to all points in the world.

We are agents for the following lines of Ocean Steamship Companies, and keep the original tickets always on hand, so that upon purchasing we can hand them to you at once:

American Line—New York to Southampton.
American Line—Philadelphia to Liverpool.

Anchor Line—New York to Glasgow.
Cunard Line—New York to Liverpool.
North German Lloyd—New York to Southampton.

We also maintain a specialty of prepaid Ocean tickets. So that any one desiring to pay for a ticket here to bring over their friends from the Old countries can do so safely and cheaply. We attend to the delivery of the ticket on the other side.

THROUGH TOURIST SLEEPING CAR TO CALIFORNIA!
Commencing Wednesday, Nov. 4th, and on EVERY WEDNESDAY thereafter, a TOURIST SLEEPING CAR, personally conducted, will be attached to train leaving Wichita via THE GREAT ROCK ISLAND ROUTE at 7:45 p. m., running THROUGH TO CALIFORNIA WITHOUT CHANGE via Ft. Worth and El Paso.

Very low rates and excellent accommodation. HALS. RAY, D. P. A., Phone 129. Wichita, Kan.

ARE YOU GOING TO KANSAS CITY?
REMEMBER THE MISSOURI PACIFIC RAILWAY COMPANY.

It is the only line that runs a strictly Wichita-Kansas City train. Leaving Wichita at 8:00 a. m., arriving at Kansas City next morning. This train is made up at Wichita, and therefore always leaves on time. Nine chair cars and Pullman sleepers.

Notice the leaving time, and the next time you go to Kansas City take the Missouri Pacific. Always on time. Never late. Fine equipment. Leaves Wichita at a reasonable hour and arrives at Kansas City neither too late nor too early. Ticket office 114 North Main Street. Depot corner Second and White streets.

Just received a car of choice Michigan apples. Leave orders at 119 North Market Street. W. W. Tagg, 125 1/2.

TAKE THE SANTA FE FOR CRIPPLE CREEK.
It is the best route.

BEST ROUTE.
Phone 129. W. TORREY, Agent. Office—Douglas Avenue Station.

REMEMBER WELL AND BEAR IN MIND
That the Missouri Pacific railway is the shortest and quickest route to all Colorado points. Leaves Wichita at 5:15 p. m., arriving at Pueblo 7:50 a. m., Colorado Springs 9:20 a. m., and Denver at 11 noon. One hour quicker time than any competing line. Single ticket 1.00. Seats on sale. City Ticket office 114 North Main Street. Telephone 211.

FACTS WORTHY OF STRONG EMPHASIS.
The time from Wichita to St. Louis via Santa Fe route and Kansas City including thirty minutes lay over at Kansas City, is only 15 1/2 hours, making the actual running time 14 1/2 hours. This is the quickest time to St. Louis. Smooth track, elegant equipment and everything for comfort.

If going to St. Louis or beyond try the quick time Santa Fe route. Phone 129. W. TORREY, Agent.

CASTORIA.
The only safe and reliable medicine for infants and children. It is a powerful laxative and purgative, and is the only medicine that can be safely given to infants and children. It is the only medicine that can be safely given to infants and children.

The best way to Colorado is over the Santa Fe Route. The fast train which leaves Wichita at 3:45 p. m., arrives at Colorado points the next morning. For information call upon or address:

W. TORREY, Agent.
Phone 129. Douglas Avenue Depot.

KANSAS CITY TO CINCINNATI WITHOUT CHANGE OF CARS.
The Washburn railroad is now running through cars to Cincinnati on their fast mail train, leaving Kansas City at 6:30 every evening, making practically no change of cars from Kansas City to Louisville, Cincinnati, Washington, Baltimore and Philadelphia, and shortening the time to all above places from five to eight hours. The Washburn is the only line that does this.

H. N. GARLAND.
146 1/2 Western Passenger Agent.

HOMESICKERS' EXCURSIONS.
On Nov. 3rd and 17th and Dec. 1st and 15th THE GREAT ROCK ISLAND ROUTE will sell round trip tickets to points south, southeast and southwest, at one fare, plus \$1.00 for sleeping car (seats free) and Pullman Palace Drawing Room Sleepers.

If you are going beyond St. Louis remember that connection with all lines for the east, northeast and southeast is made in the magnificent new Grand Union Station, St. Louis, the largest and latest passenger station in the world.

For sleeping car berths and all information relative to rates, routes, etc., call on or address Ticket Agent, corner Main and Douglas, or Douglas Avenue Station.

ONLY ONE FARE ROUND TRIP TO MEXICO CITY, MEXICO, VIA SANTA FE ROUTE.
Tickets on sale Nov. 7 to 19. Limited for return Dec. 31.

W. TORREY, Agent.
Through tickets, baggage checks, maps, time tables and full information about the Santa Fe route and "Frisco Line" can be obtained from their ticket office at Douglas Avenue Station, which is open until 10:40 p. m. every day. All questions cheerfully answered.

Santa Fe Route—California Limited.
Beginning November 4, the Santa Fe Route will resume its celebrated California Limited train as a semi-weekly service, leaving Chicago at 6:00 p. m., Wednesdays and Saturdays, and Kansas City 9:50 a. m. and Denver 5:20 p. m., Thursdays and Sundays, reaching Los Angeles in 72 hours and San Diego in 78 hours from Chicago. Returns from California Mondays and Thursdays. Connecting train for San Francisco, via Mojave.

Equipment of superb vestibuled Pullman palace sleepers, buffet smoking car and dining car. Most luxurious service via any line.

Another express train, carrying palace and tourist sleepers, leaves Chicago and Kansas City daily for California. Inquire of Local Agent, or G. T. NICHOLSON, G. P. A., A. T. & S. P. R. Y. Chicago.

HOMESICKERS' EXCURSIONS VIA FRISCO LINE.
On November 17th, December 18th and 15th the Frisco Line will sell tickets to points in Arkansas, Oklahoma, Texas, New Mexico and Arizona at one fare plus \$2.00 for the round trip. For other information call or address:

W. W. TAGG, City Ticket Agent, Corner Main and Douglas.

WICHITA TO ST. LOUIS IN SIXTEEN HOURS AND FIFTY MINUTES VIA MISSOURI PACIFIC.
"The Kansas and Nebraska Limited" train leaves Wichita at 2:30 p. m., daily and arrives at St. Louis next morning 7:10. No need of hurrying yourself to catch a morning train for Kansas City. Take your dinner and your baggage with you. After dinner, after which you can take the Missouri Pacific and reach St. Louis for breakfast. Same time as though you had left on the morning train. Time, elegant service. City Ticket office 114 North Main Street. Depot corner Second and White Sts.

One-Handed People.
Has it ever occurred to you that 200,000 people out of a million go through life with the use of only one hand? It is an odd thought, but there is solid truth at the back of it. If you are right-handed, your left hand has no other use than as a very humble auxiliary to your right hand; if you are left-handed, it is a million to one that your right hand is but a poor workman. You may live to be seventy-five and never use your left hand as much as your right hand. This is a serious proposition, for all children should be trained from their earliest years to use their left as much as their right hands. They should be taught to write and to hold their knives with their left hands as well as to bat and to bowl at cricket left-handed. In every other way the left hand should be given the same chances as the right. Crowds of right-handed people who have been afflicted with that distressing malady known as "writer's cramp" have taught themselves to write with their left hands. Why can't we all learn to do this?—Golden Days.

X Rays Proved His Sanity.
A Hamburg young man has just had his sanity proved by the Roentgen rays. He declared ten years ago that he had fired a bullet in his head, which he had fired into it in trying to commit suicide. He complained of a pain, and as he attacked his keepers and the doctors would not let him out of a window, he was locked up as a dangerous lunatic. The Roentgen rays have now shown the exact place of the bullet.—Banner of Gold.

Changing Serpents Into Rods.
The Egyptian cobra is not unlike its Asiatic cousin, except in the absence of the curious speckle-like mark which distinguishes the latter. Although it is the most poisonous reptile known to inhabit northern Africa it is the favorite among the snake-charmers. These conjurers know how to render this serpent rigidly unconscious by pressing the apex of its neck with a finger. This act appears to throw the reptile into convulsions, in which it is as stiff as an iron rod. Traces of something similar having been practiced in olden times may be found in the Bible—where Aaron made a serpent of his rod or staff.—St. Louis Republic.

PROGRESS OF THE NEGRO.

Education and Industry Doing Much for the Blacks.

The Acquisition of Property Brings to Them an Improved Condition in Public and Private Life.

In February of every year the little town of Tuskegee, in Alabama, beholds a curious spectacle. From every direction and every sort of conveyance, representatives of the colored population of the surrounding country gather there to attend the Tuskegee conference. Persons of both sexes attend, and neither education nor wealth is necessary to secure admission.

No political purpose prompts the movement. The subject of discussion is the welfare of the negro race, and a desire to cooperate in the work of elevating and expanding the lives of their fellows is the one common motive of those who attend.

In connection with the larger convention, and contemporaneous with it, is the workers' conference, made up of officers and teachers in colored schools. Both gatherings stand for the principle of self-help among the colored people of the south.

Our readers were told some months ago of the various institutions devoted to the education of colored youth, and of the eminently practical character which most of them have taken on. Through these institutions, and through their graduates, a wide and elevating influence has been brought to bear upon the whole race. The Tuskegee conference grew out of the Tuskegee institute, whose founder and president, Booker T. Washington, is himself a graduate of a similar school at Hampton, in Virginia.

The conference themselves are but one of many ways in which the influence of such an institution as Washington is brought to bear. The credit system, the one-room cabin, the building of schoolhouses and lengthening of the school term, the importance of using instead of renting a house, the use of a savings bank—these are among the topics with which the conference deals. But the same topics are dealt with in every community where the new spirit has been set at work. They are, in fact, the things that the friends of the race consider everywhere as the things of most immediate importance.

Uselessness in work, a lack of foresight and an indifference to waste are always the characteristics of slave labor. Naturally they did not disappear immediately when the slaves were freed. Mental and physical traits are not easily eradicated, either in the individual or the race; but had the individual or the race been gradually yielding to the influence of new conditions and the labor of new ideas. The returns of the census show that the negro is acquiring property. The Atlanta exposition revealed something of the skill and intelligence which he is adding to his natural capacity for physical labor.

There is every indication that industrial progress is not unaccompanied with moral progress also. Only very gradually could the old habits of thought and life be shaken off. Poverty, not necessarily inimical to morality, tended to perpetuate an instinct of blind submission inconsistent with an erect manhood. The acquisition of property brings with it a certain self-respect and the feeling of responsibility.

The awakening of the blacks to the possibilities and the duties of their new life is not a menace to the still dominant whites. The practical disappearance of the race question from national politics is a hopeful sign.

Other indications are not wanting of a better feeling between those who were masters and those who were slaves in the times that seem so much more remote than the tale of years would indicate. Surely an increase of intelligence will help the negro to find his place in the great future of the south. Whatever the solution of the race problem may be, ignorance and immorality cannot aid us in finding it.—Youth's Companion.

FASHIONABLE FALL FABRICS.
Checks Have Supplanted Stripes—The Basket Work Broadened Noises.

Basket work, canvas, soft to supple, warm and serviceable, will, I don't know, be one of the most successful of autumn woolen goods—it combines usefulness with elegance, and in some ways reminds me of Java canvas on a much larger scale, in fact it more closely resembles basket plaiting, the coarse strands of wool passed in and out in simple fashion. Some of these canvases are checked; others are in two colors only, dark blue and black, the last named peculiarly ladylike and charming, being amongst the prettiest samples shown. The material is slightly satin faced, and I am sold gowns of this fabric, made up with trimmings of velvet, similar to the tone of the material, will be simply "ravissants." Then there are thickly-ribbed cloths in deep, rich tones of purple, blue, green and a magnificent dark crimson, all of which also figure prominently among the season's goods, with their smooth, silky surfaces so pleasant to the touch. Other stuffs, in pretty shades of drab, grey, eider and cedar brown, Havana and a curious greyish brown shade, denominated "moleaux," or sparrow colored, are soft, loosely-woven canvases of the grape-like cast, interwoven with goat or camel hair, and accordingly dubbed "yol de chevre."

Then, again, there are magnificent samples of "granites" and "beucies," the latter noted and flecked with white, yellow, blue, scarlet or any other color, according to taste, on a light or dark ground. The always useful beaver mixtures, too, are prettier than ever this year, while Scotch plaids and shepherd's plaids, in various colors—the usual small, white check replaced by drab, grey or black, as less conspicuous for winter days and with a contrasting and more brilliant color—will make most little morning dresses, trimmed with cloth or velvet, or velours, single sort of Terry velvet, that is not quite as dressy as the Lyons fabric, and more so than uniform Melton cloth. Stripes have had their day, and will not figure in coming autumn and winter fashions. Matelasse cloths, with printed designs woven upon them in soft silk, are much in vogue.

new and very pretty. In black they are particularly effective. One having a raised design of oak leaves cleverly defined in shiny silk on a dull background, struck me as peculiarly neat and pleasing. This material is produced in double width only. Large patterns and very small ones will be equally set aside this season, a good medium-sized pattern being looked upon by various couturiers as the proper thing for draping the female form this autumn.

To recapitulate, therefore, checks, plaids, medium-sized floral or conventional designs, and coarsely-woven, soft materials flecked with silk or finer wool, satin cloths and ribbed materials, either plain or peppered in two colors, will be most popular for winter wear, while printed velvets, in the loveliest colors imaginable, silk-faced, cotton backed, will form entire corsets or jackets. Some of these velvets are printed with artistic, old-time designs of the Louis Quinze and Louis Seize periods. Others have bunches of roses thrown carelessly on to a soft, pale green, mouse grey, or hellebore ground, the floral design reassembled by ribbons tied in true lover's knot bows. Posies of gold and copper-colored marigolds, tiny bouquets this time, stand out radiantly from a ground of royal blue, Lincoln green, or mahogany-ground velvet.

In more dressy and expensive materials we find the beautiful moires, that appear to have a fruit-like bloom upon their watered surface; nor does this suffice for the rich few more. Personal touches the moire is decorated with a medieval pattern in meditation or a design of foliage is brocaded upon the silken fabric. Moire-velours for evening dresses, especially for young girls, will also form part of the season's novelties, in white, pale blue, golden yellow and pale green. This material is most fetching. Then there is a series of finely-ribbed silks, woven with a floral design in posies on tan, or of that exact shade of the foundation. These silks are particularly pleasing for ladies who appreciate quiet and rather Quakerish garb; the faint, old-time shades of "nauses elientes," such as puce, dove grey, violet blue, vieux rouge and a quaint faded green, having a soothing effect on the nerves, after the aggressive coloring adopted by the masses during the rich few more.

I fancy a reaction will set in and the vogue will favor soft, faint shades, so much more becoming to the generally of feminine complexions. Brocaded silks, or rather silks brocaded with a raised velvet design in Louis Quatorze style, will be employed by one of the leading houses for gowns and evening dresses, while silver and gold-woven brocades will be used as ornamentation in conjunction with plain satin or moire gowns. As to trimmings, embroidery will again be largely employed, intermixed with narrow lines of fur outlining the design. Suede and glace kid will be much used also, in bands, or cut out in fretwork design, and worked around with silken cord, metal beads, and at times with lines of colored chenille in Renaissance style. Entire dresses of this cut-out kid, I am told, will be forthcoming later on, reminding one singularly of the "buffet" worn by the courtesiers of the middle ages. One of the favorite styles of trimming autumn dresses will be with narrow velvet ribbon, generally black, and set on in rows of seven, four or three around the skirt, the corsage similarly ornamented. These velvets vary in width from two inches to the fifth of an inch, and may be employed in graduated manner, or each row may be of similar breadth. The effect is neat and extremely pretty, and the expense thereof is not great.—Paris Letter to London Telegraph.

THE WAY IT ACTED.
It Was Quite a New Thing to Sam and He Was Bound to Try It.

A tailor named Sam Smith, from a country place, visited a large wholesale warehouse and ordered a quantity of goods. He was politely received and one of the principals showed him over the establishment. On reaching the fourth floor the customer saw a speaking tube on the wall, the first he had ever seen, says the Detroit Free Press.

"What is that?" he asked.

"Oh, that is a speaking tube. It is a great convenience. We can talk with it to the clerks on the first floor without taking the trouble of going downstairs."

"Can they hear anything that you say through it?"

"Yes, and they can reply."

"You don't say so! May I talk through it?"

"Certainly."

The visitor put his mouth to the tube and asked:

"Are Sam Smith's goods packed yet?"

The people in the office supposed it was the salesman who had asked the question, and in a moment the distinct reply came back:

"No; we are waiting for a telegram from his own. He looks like a slippery customer."

Deviled Crabs.
The picked meat of one dozen boiled crabs, five tablespoonsful of cracker dust, one tablespoonful of mustard, half a cup of sweet milk, one spoonful of vinegar, pepper and salt to taste. Beat the eggs and add to the crab meat; add all the other ingredients except the mustard and milk; these should be rubbed to a paste and added last of all. Wash the upper shells of the crabs, which should be removed with care, and hence not broken. Fill the above mixture with care in the upper shells, and put a speck of butter and a sprinkle of cracker dust on the top of them, and bake in a hot oven five minutes. These can be eaten either hot or cold.

Deviled crabs are suitable for breakfast, luncheon, dinner or tea. They are served at luncheon with a salad, at dinner as a course with green peas, and at tea as a side dish with rolls, or with bread and butter. Whenever served they form a most appealing and satisfactory dish.—Ladies' Home Journal.

At Must Be True.
"I've become interested in palmistry," remarked Duke to Gaswell.

"Indeed?"

"Yes, and I have been struck with the palmist's assertion that women with a masterful disposition always have large thumbs."

"That strikes me as a reasonable proposition of nature."

"How so?"

"A woman who keeps her husband under her thumb needs to have a large one."—Pittsburgh Chronicle-Telegraph.

IN SOUTHERN CANEBRAKES.

Picturesque Life in the South Atlantic States.

Where the Negroes Revel in the Sweetness of the Cane—The Sugar Industry of Georgia and Florida.

The canebrakes of Georgia and Florida are but little known, as compared with the sugar plantations of Louisiana and Cuba, but the making of sugar and molasses has long been a favored pursuit in Georgia and is fast becoming a prominent feature in Florida. The transient visitor to these states, however, rarely sees the cane growing or witnesses the crude processes or sugar manufacture here in vogue, for the reason that the canebrakes are usually far away from the beaten paths of travel and accessible by tedious and not altogether attractive byways.

Before the war almost every planter in southern Georgia had his cane patch and mill whereby he made his supply of low-grade sugar and molasses for home use or for sale and barter, and it was not infrequently that an excellent article of rum was produced from the same source.

From the wreck of these great plantations after the war the former owners and the erstwhile slaves slowly produced order from chaos. The fact that the tilling of the cane as well as the grinding and boiling of the juice had been left entirely to the slaves was the cause which led to the now general condition of the Georgia sugar industry being largely in the hands of negroes. And a picturesque phase of our national life is this pursuit as followed in the south Atlantic states.

The mode of raising sugar cane in Georgia differs in many respects from the practice of the Louisiana planters. In the latter state the heavy and wet soil often makes necessary the employment of three and four mules to each plow in breaking the soil for the first planting of the cane, and much valuable ground is wasted, for between the rows a deep furrow or ditch must be made for drainage. In planting, pieces of sugar cane containing two or more "eyes" or joints are placed in the ground. When fall comes and the grain is cut the roots throw out new branches of suckers, which are known as ratoons, and these form the beginning of the next crop, and so on year by year until the vitality of the stock is exhausted. In Louisiana cane must be renewed every three or four years, while in Georgia and Florida one planting will last for seven or nine years.

In Louisiana the cane rarely tapers, while it does so regularly along the Atlantic coast. The yield in the cane states is about 1,000 pounds per acre, but near Savannah the planters get 1,500 to 2,000 pounds per acre, equal to 20 barrels of sirup. A good cane will yield over a gallon of juice and its height varies from 5 to 12 feet. It is usual to plant cane between the rows of cane, and as the former is taken in long before November, when the cane is ready to cut, the two make good companion crops.

When the cane is ready to cut begins the happy season of the negroes. The ancient cane mill is tinkered up and cleaned for yet another period of usefulness, barrels are coppered, furnaces looked after and the boiling kettles scoured and polished. The single mule on the place is attached to the long sweep of the mill and begins the monotonous tramp around the circle worn deep by many earlier generations of mules at the same task.

The cane is fed to the vertical rollers at a speed equal to the pace of the motor, and as the mule is made to tread the venerable axle and the negro is rather laquid in his movements, the effect is very similar to the ancient saw concerning the mills of the gods. However, the juice quickly makes its appearance in the funnel beneath the rollers, and it is led to a barrel, the mouth of which is covered with coarse cloth, acting as a sieve. The color of the sap is gray, foamy ash, and by no means inviting, but it is eagerly drank by the plantation hands, and in consequence a close watch is kept upon the precious liquid by the owner.

From the mill the juice is taken to the boiling kettles or pans and after many boilings and skimmings over fires fed by the refuse cane or "trash" the sap is reduced to a thick, sticky, semi-fluid mass, which is ladled into hogheads and set away to cool. The liquid portions of the sap drip into receivers and form the molasses so dear to negroes' hearts. The solid residue is sugar, none too clean and also full of attractive for others, but all sufficient for the natives. A general holiday and celebration usually follows the close of sugar-making, and in the degree that the turn-out has been satisfactory, the fun swells or ebbs.

The chewing or sucking of green cane is a universal habit in the sugar belt, and the juicy stalks take the place of sweetmeats in many a humble cabin, while forming a dainty by no means despised in higher circles.—N. Y. Recorder.

DELIGHTS OF RUSSIAN TRAVEL.
How to Have Few of the Modern Conveniences or Comforts Found Elsewhere.

Much has been written about the German bed. But how much might not be written about the Russian bed? Nay how much has not been written already? Even in decent country houses in Russia the sleeping place is often merely a couch or the top of a chest of drawers covered with a rug. But in the towns, and especially in the hotels it is the towns, there are beds, and such beds! The German bed, as most people are aware, if not from personal experience, is that you cannot tumble out of it, however much you toss about. The Russian bed, on the contrary, is an affair of which, or rather of what, of which, you cannot possibly help tumbling, however still you lie. It is an iron or wooden frame, perfectly destitute of rails and about the width of an ordinary coffin. Upon this is laid a mattress and the entire arrangement is decorated with the middle of the room. To get on it is easy enough for it is quite low. But to fall asleep on it is inevitably to fall on the floor. It is too narrow to turn in, and there is nobody who does not turn in his sleep, unless he is a Russian, who, one may assume, has been weaned from the habit by countless flops in the days of his youth, when he didn't mind that sort of thing. He has brought himself into harmony with his environment, as the evolutionists say, and is comfortable. The stranger has not and suffers accordingly.

Most people before they enter the land of nod are apt to dream that they have fallen over a precipice and are going down, down, down, and just as they are about to touch bottom they wake up with a start and leave a sigh of relief as they realize that they are on nothing harder than feathers. In Russia that dream has a terribly actual termination. The visionary wakes with a start to find that he has "gone over" in a very literal sense and is wallowing among his trunks. A cunning man will shift his bed from the center of the room to the wall. That saves him on one side. But he is still open to disasters on the other, and a bedroom companion of mine used to fall out of bed three times regularly every night and after the third time he talked in his sleep until daylight, dreaming, I fancy, that he was about to break the record by falling out again. The narrow bed is general where beds are employed at all. Even the imperial residences are furnished with them, and the coachman breathed his last still clinging to a victrola in the winter palace, in of the same type. The Russians, like their Teutonic neighbors, have a good deal to learn about Bedfordshire.

"But what about the bedclothes?" It will be asked. Well they are much more easily described than the bed, the fact being that they are invariably conspicuous by their absence. It is not the fashion in Russia to supply bedclothes, even in the best hotels. The traveler is expected to bring his sheets and blankets with him if he requires them; and the same is the case in private houses. A Russian would not more think of offering his second-hand bedclothes than you would of offering him a second-hand toothbrush. The railway officials now supply one pillow, one sheet and one blanket to each first-class passenger. Elsewhere, however, as stated, the stranger, let him be invited guest or paying lodger, is understood to provide his own bedclothing. These are considerations which render this system highly desirable. But it is not without its drawbacks; and when we remember that the mean annual temperature of northern Russia is below freezing point, it will be admitted that no one should be left in ignorance of the custom. Its discovery created no small consternation among the English tourists, who were quite unprepared for it, and who arrived at Moscow at midnight, tired to death, and found themselves with nothing to sleep in and with next to nothing to sleep upon. How did they manage? One slept for eight days in his top coat; another wrapped himself up in his dignity and his dressing gown, while a third reposed in a borrowed railway rug.

Guests in a Russian hotel, or in a private house, for that matter, ought, if they are particular, to fasten their bed-room doors before engaging in serious abstractions. Russian servants and waiters, male and female, give no warning of their approach. It is no more the custom to knock at the door than it is to furnish bedclothes, and a boots or a chambermaid will invariably enter a room without any intimation. "So it," as one writer has expressed it, "intentionally ignoring such obstacles to movement as doors." The fact that the room is a bedroom makes no difference whatever. This free-and-easy style may not annoy a Slav, but it is apt to provoke embarrassing situations among Englishmen, whose morning toilet is a very extensive affair, embracing every part of the man from the crown of his head to the sole of his feet.—Newcastle (Eng.) Chronicle.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.
—The oldest national flag in the world is that of Denmark, which has been in use since the year 1219.

—Among the earliest specimens of alphabetical writing are the inscriptions given on the monument of King Eshmunazar, which rival in importance the Moabite inscription of King Mesha.

—The oldest Jewish alphabet is supposed by some scholars to have been an adaptation of the Egyptian hieroglyphs. Its earliest use in a monument is supposed to be the Silem inscription at Jerusalem.

—Astronomers calculate that the surface of the earth contains 31,525,625 square miles, of which 29,814,121 are water and 7,511,504 are land, the water thus covering about seven-tenths of the earth's surface.

—Size for size, a thread of spider silk is decidedly tougher than a bar of steel. An ordinary thread will bear a weight of three grains. This is just about 50 per cent. stronger than a steel thread of the same thickness.

—Italy has 48 per cent. illiterate people; France and Belgium about 15 per cent. In Hungary the illiterate number 43 per cent.; in Austria, 39 per cent., and in Ireland 21 per cent. In India only 11,000,000 people out of 250,000,000 can read and write.

—The 73 races inhabiting the globe communicate with each other in 3,094 different tongues, and confess to about 1,000 religions. The number of men and women is very nearly equal, the average longevity of both sexes being only 35 years, about one-third of the population dying before the age of 17.

—Jerome I. of Knoss had no teeth, having lost these valuable adjuncts to happiness by a blow from a Turkish mace. An English traveler in this country says it was commonly reported that the king's chewing was done by the queen, who manifested all the royal food and transferred it from her mouth to his majesty's with a spoon.

A Misleading "Ad."
Customer—You advertised ginseng slices.
Dealer—Yes, sir, here they are.
—But these are the ordinary pore "ras."

"Quite true; in the 'ad' I referred to the price. They are a guinea each."—Washington Times.

A QUEER COMMUNITY.

Strange Lot of People in a Small Maine Town.

They Are Happy and Prosperous With out Schools, Law, Theology, Medicine or Taxes—The Only Place of Its Kind on Earth.

Residents of Maine who look to the New York and Boston papers for accounts of queer people and strange forms of government in different parts of the world could learn facts worth studying by going to Norcross. The settlements of Eskimos on the coast of Greenland have their old men, the tribes of Africa have their chiefs, and even penal colonies recognize the authority of firearms and the lash. But the law-abiding people of this power—the hurrying, unemphatic cars, which bring everything that comes to their homes and take away everything that goes out.